

O F F I C E
APR 04 2005
P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K S
S A N 10/522,045

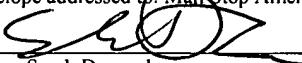
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	OKAMOTO et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/522,045	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	January 19, 2005	Docket No.:	10873.1576USWO
Title:	MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTION METHOD, AND MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTING IMPLEMENT USED FOR THE METHOD		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 April 1, 2005.

By: 
Name: Sarah Dannecker

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the references are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

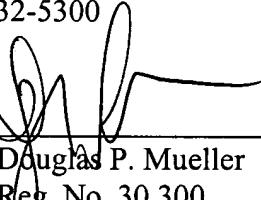
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,



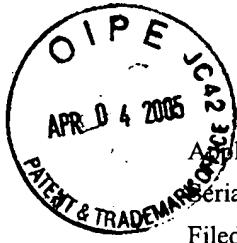
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: April 1, 2005

By: 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/sbd

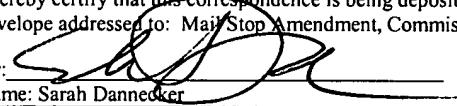


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By: 
Name: Sarah Dannecker

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

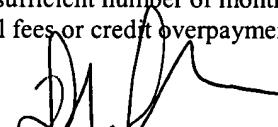
Commissioner:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 7 References
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300
DPM/sbd

FORM 1449*  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.1576USWO	Application Number: 10/522,045
	Applicant: OKAMOTO et al.	
	Filing Date: January 19, 2005	Group Art Unit: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	49-41577	04/1974	Japan			Partial
	7-111887	05/1995	Japan			Abstract
	7-116679	05/1995	Japan			Abstract
	2000-14380	01/2000	Japan			Abstract
	2001-112497	04/2001	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
		"New Guidelines for TB Bacteria Test 2000" published by Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, pp. 28-29 with its full English Translation				
		"Manual of Prevention Measures against Legionella Infection in Circulating Type Bath" (issued by the director of the Environmental Health Division of the Health Service Bureau in the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in Japan as a 95th notification dated September 11, 2001) pp. 6571-6588 with its partial English translation				

23552	
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	